

8909(a) of title 5, United States Code) any such reserves in excess of such minimum level in such amounts and at such times during fiscal years 1986 and 1987 as the Office determines appropriate.

“(2) In carrying out its responsibilities under this subsection, the Office shall ensure that the aggregate amount to be refunded to the Employees Health Benefits Fund under this subsection—

“(A) during fiscal year 1986 shall be not less than \$800,000,000; and

“(B) during fiscal year 1987 shall be not less than \$300,000,000.

“(3) No amount in the Employees Health Benefits Fund may be transferred to the general fund of the Treasury of the United States as a result of a refund made under this subsection.

“(4)(A) Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C), any amounts refunded to the Employees Health Benefits Fund under this subsection may be used solely for the purpose of paying the Government contribution under chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code, for health benefits for annuitants, as defined by section 8901(3) of title 5, United States Code, (including the Government contribution for former employees of the United States Postal Service) enrolled in health benefits plans under such chapter.

“(B) This paragraph applies to a refund to the extent that such refund represents amounts attributable to Government contributions which were made under section 8906(b) of title 5, United States Code, (including contributions made by the United States Postal Service) as determined under regulations which the Office of Personnel Management shall prescribe.

“(C) Any part of the amount in the Employees Health Benefits Fund as a result of a refund made under this subsection may be transferred—

“(i) to the government of the District of Columbia, except that the amount of any such part so transferred shall not exceed the amount attributable to the contributions made by the government of the District of Columbia to subscription charges under this chapter (as determined by the Office of Personnel Management); and

“(ii) to the United States Postal Service, except that the amount of any such part so transferred shall not exceed the amount attributable to the contributions made by the United States Postal Service to subscription charges under this chapter (as determined by the Office).

“(5) The provisions of this subsection shall apply notwithstanding any provision of the Federal Employees Benefits Improvement Act of 1985 [probably means the Federal Employees Benefits Improvement Act of 1986, Pub. L. 99-251, see Short Title of 1986 Amendment note set out under section 8901 of this title for classification].”

#### RESTRICTIONS RELATING TO AMOUNTS REFUNDED TO EMPLOYEES HEALTH BENEFITS FUND FROM CARRIERS' SPECIAL RESERVES

Section 112 of Pub. L. 99-251 provided that:

“(a) PROHIBITED TRANSFERS.—(1) No amount in the Employees Health Benefits Fund may be transferred to the general fund of the Treasury of the United States or the United States Postal Service as a result of a refund described in paragraph (2).

“(2) This subsection applies with respect to any refund made by a carrier during fiscal year 1986 or 1987 to the Employees Health Benefits Fund to the extent that such refund represents amounts in excess of the minimum level of financial reserves necessary to be held by such carrier to ensure the stable and efficient operation of its health benefits plan.

“(b) RESTRICTION RELATING TO USE OF CERTAIN AMOUNTS IN THE FUND.—(1) Any amount which is in the Employees Health Benefits Fund, and which is described in paragraph (2), may be used solely for the purpose of paying the Government contribution under chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code, for health benefits for annuitants enrolled in health benefits plans

(without regard to the health benefits plan or plans from which the refunds were received).

“(2) This subsection applies with respect to any amounts—

“(A) which are referred to in subsection (a)(2); and

“(B) which are attributable to Government contributions (other than contributions by the government of the District of Columbia, which shall be returned to such government) that were made under section 8906(b) of title 5, United States Code, as determined under regulations which the Office of Personnel Management shall prescribe.

“(c) DEFINITIONS.—For the purpose of this section—

“(1) the term ‘Employees Health Benefits Fund’ refers to the fund described in section 8909(a) of title 5, United States Code;

“(2) the term ‘carrier’ has the meaning given such term by section 8901(7) of such title; and

“(3) the term ‘health benefits plan’ has the meaning given such term by section 8901(6) of such title.”

#### § 8909a. Postal Service Retiree Health Benefit<sup>1</sup> Fund

(a) There is in the Treasury of the United States a Postal Service Retiree Health Benefits Fund which is administered by the Office of Personnel Management.

(b) The Fund is available without fiscal year limitation for payments required under section 8906(g)(2)(A).

(c) The Secretary of the Treasury shall immediately invest, in interest-bearing securities of the United States such currently available portions of the Fund as are not immediately required for payments from the Fund. Such investments shall be made in the same manner as investments for the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund under section 8348.

(d)(1) Not later than June 30, 2007, and by June 30 of each succeeding year, the Office shall compute the net present value of the future payments required under section 8906(g)(2)(A) and attributable to the service of Postal Service employees during the most recently ended fiscal year.

(2)(A) Not later than June 30, 2007, the Office shall compute, and by June 30 of each succeeding year, the Office shall recompute the difference between—

(i) the net present value of the excess of future payments required under section 8906(g)(2)(A) for current and future United States Postal Service annuitants as of the end of the fiscal year ending on September 30 of that year; and

(ii)(I) the value of the assets of the Postal Retiree Health Benefits Fund as of the end of the fiscal year ending on September 30 of that year; and

(II) the net present value computed under paragraph (1).

(B) Not later than June 30, 2017, the Office shall compute, and by June 30 of each succeeding year shall recompute, a schedule including a series of annual installments which provide for the liquidation of any liability or surplus by September 30, 2056, or within 15 years, whichever is later, of the net present value determined under subparagraph (A), including interest at the rate used in that computation.

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be “Benefits”.

(3)(A) The United States Postal Service shall pay into such Fund—

- (i) \$5,400,000,000, not later than September 30, 2007;
- (ii) \$5,600,000,000, not later than September 30, 2008;
- (iii) \$5,400,000,000, not later than September 30, 2009;
- (iv) \$5,500,000,000, not later than September 30, 2010;
- (v) \$5,500,000,000, not later than September 30, 2011;
- (vi) \$5,600,000,000, not later than September 30, 2012;
- (vii) \$5,600,000,000, not later than September 30, 2013;
- (viii) \$5,700,000,000, not later than September 30, 2014;
- (ix) \$5,700,000,000, not later than September 30, 2015; and
- (x) \$5,800,000,000, not later than September 30, 2016.

(B) Not later than September 30, 2017, and by September 30 of each succeeding year, the United States Postal Service shall pay into such Fund the sum of—

- (i) the net present value computed under paragraph (1); and
- (ii) any annual installment computed under paragraph (2)(B).

(4) Computations under this subsection shall be made consistent with the assumptions and methodology used by the Office for financial reporting under subchapter II of chapter 35 of title 31.

(5)(A)(i) Any computation or other determination of the Office under this subsection shall, upon request of the United States Postal Service, be subject to a review by the Postal Regulatory Commission under this paragraph.

(ii) Upon receiving a request under clause (i), the Commission shall promptly procure the services of an actuary, who shall hold membership in the American Academy of Actuaries and shall be qualified in the evaluation of healthcare insurance obligations, to conduct a review in accordance with generally accepted actuarial practices and principles and to provide a report to the Commission containing the results of the review. The Commission, upon determining that the report satisfies the requirements of this subparagraph, shall approve the report, with any comments it may choose to make, and submit it with any such comments to the Postal Service, the Office of Personnel Management, and Congress.

(B) Upon receiving the report under subparagraph (A), the Office of Personnel Management shall reconsider its determination or redetermination in light of such report, and shall make any appropriate adjustments. The Office shall submit a report containing the results of its reconsideration to the Commission, the Postal Service, and Congress.

(6) After consultation with the United States Postal Service, the Office shall promulgate any regulations the Office determines necessary under this subsection.

(Added Pub. L. 109-435, title VIII, §803(a)(1)(B), Dec. 20, 2006, 120 Stat. 3251.)

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 2006, see section 805(a) of Pub. L. 109-435, set out as a Effective Date of 2006 Amendment note under section 8334 of this title.

#### REVIEW BY POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

Pub. L. 109-435, title VIII, §803(b), Dec. 20, 2006, 120 Stat. 3252, provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—

“(A) REQUEST FOR REVIEW.—Any regulation established under section 8909a(d)(5) of title 5, United States Code (as added by subsection (a)), shall, upon request of the United States Postal Service, be subject to a review by the Postal Regulatory Commission under this paragraph.

“(B) REPORT.—Upon receiving a request under subparagraph (A), the Commission shall promptly procure the services of an actuary, who shall hold membership in the American Academy of Actuaries and shall be qualified in the evaluation of healthcare insurance obligations, to conduct a review in accordance with generally accepted actuarial practices and principles and to provide a report to the Commission containing the results of the review. The Commission, upon determining that the report satisfies the requirements of this paragraph, shall approve the report, with any comments it may choose to make, and submit it with any such comments to the Postal Service, the Office of Personnel Management, and Congress.

“(2) RECONSIDERATION.—Upon receiving the report under paragraph (1), the Office of Personnel Management shall reconsider its determination or redetermination in light of such report, and shall make any appropriate adjustments. The Office shall submit a report containing the results of its reconsideration to the Commission, the Postal Service, and Congress.”

#### § 8910. Studies, reports, and audits

(a) The Office of Personnel Management shall make a continuing study of the operation and administration of this chapter, including surveys and reports on health benefits plans available to employees and on the experience of the plans.

(b) Each contract entered into under section 8902 of this title shall contain provisions requiring carriers to—

(1) furnish such reasonable reports as the Office determines to be necessary to enable it to carry out its functions under this chapter; and

(2) permit the Office and representatives of the Government Accountability Office to examine records of the carriers as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

(c) Each Government agency shall keep such records, make such certifications, and furnish the Office with such information and reports as may be necessary to enable the Office to carry out its functions under this chapter.

(d) The Office, in consultation with the Department of Health and Human Services, shall develop and implement a system through which the carrier for an approved health benefits plan described by section 8903 or 8903a will be able to identify those annuitants or other individuals covered by such plan who are entitled to benefits under part A or B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act in order to ensure that payments under coordination of benefits with Medicare do not exceed the statutory maximums which physicians may charge Medicare enrollees.

(Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 606; Pub. L. 95-454, title IX, §906(a)(2), (3), Oct. 13, 1978, 92